

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 IO-10 NEA-10 /084 W

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R 231451Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1640

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, GW, FR,

SUBJECT: FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT: PLUTON NOT ON AGENDA

REF: PARIS 18849

1. RELIABLE FMOD AND CHANCELLERY SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THE PLUTON ISSUE IS NOT ON THE AGENDA FOR THE GISCARD-SCHMIDT MEETING SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN BONN ON JULY 25. APPARENTLY THE GERMANS GAVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO MAKING THE ISSUE A FORMAL AGENDA ITEM. HOWEVER, WE WERE TOLD THAT DEFMIN LEBER FINALLY DECIDED AGAINST MAKING SUCH A RECOMMENDATION TO THE CHANCELLOR. ALTHOUGH THE GERMAN SIDE DOES NOT INTEND TO RAISE THE ISSUE, THE POSSIBILITY OF ITS ARISING IN THE COURSE OF THE PRIVATE GISCARD-SCHMIDT CONVERSATION CAN NOT BE EXCLUDED.

2. THE GERMAN PRESS HAS RECENTLY BEEN GIVING CONSIDERABLE PLAY TO THE PLUTON STATIONING ISSUE. ONE JOURNALIST

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EVEN SUGGESTED A BONN-PARIS ATOMIC AXIS WAS IN THE OFFING.

SUCH REPORTING DOES NOT SQUARE WITH COMMENTS FROM
OFFICIALS IN BONN. AS RATIONALE FOR THE GERMAN
DECISION NOT TO TALK ABOUT PLUTON ON THIS OCCASION,
OFFICIALS ADVANCED THE ARGUMENT THAT IT WAS NOT A SUIT-
ABLE SUBJECT AT THE PRESENT TIME BECAUSE OF GISCARD'S
DOMESTIC POLITICAL NEED TO REAFFIRM FRANCE'S INDEPENDENT
STANCE ON NUCLEAR MATTERS.
HILLENBRAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN11910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750254-0719
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750727/aaaaaxvl.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 18849
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCO-GERMAN SUMMIT: PLUTON NOT ON AGENDA
TAGS: PFOR, GE, FR, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006